



Banner

We are a sharing, loving fellowship of Christian believers, rooted in biblical faith, that actively seeks and celebrates God. We desire to praise, love and serve with all our hearts in our faith community and to reach out to our neighbors, continuing the work of Jesus peacefully, simply, together. In God we find the source of all our joy.
Hallelujah!

October 2026

Pomona Fellowship Church of the Brethren

Vol. 53 No. 10

A word from Our Pastor

“Vision ignites growth.” — Anonymous

In my last Banner article, I told you about the Innovations Project and the outside donor who has funded that project to the tune of \$25,000.

I have more good news. It’s another miracle – almost an embarrassment of riches!

The donor who gave us the last \$25,000, sent another check last week – same amount! Our heads were spinning! I asked the donor to join me for a thank-you lunch and she told me another miraculous piece of news: She will be funding us this much every quarter! Did your jaw just drop? Mine did!

Never have I heard of a church having this sort of blessing from an outside source!

When I told my team, Rudy said, “This is God’s challenge to us.” The more I sit with this news, the more I think he is correct.

We are in a very special circumstance. The church finances are stable; we have a really good team in place. This money affords us the ability to continue and expand our Pomona dream. We have been dreaming about worship, dreaming about growth, dreaming about service, dreaming about God’s grace flowing out from us into Pomona. And now, in the moment of this generous monetary gift, we can pray that God will give clear, specific direction on how our Spirit-led dreams are to become even more concrete and real.

These are exciting times! Soon, we will have a retreat, with one of our goals being to focus clearly on how this money can serve. Would you start now by thinking/dreaming/researching innovative ways a little church can make a big impact in our community? What possibilities would God have us see right now? I look forward to what you have to say!

In God’s service,

Pastor Julie Wheeler

Pastor

**PFCOB STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION
Through August 2026**

2026 Annual Budget	\$288,409.00
Total Budget Income thru August	\$129,157.71
Giving 2026	\$48,241.56
Interest & Other Income	\$80,916.15
Total Budget Expense thru August	-\$166,957.36
Budget Balance thru August	(\$37,799.65)
August Special Non-Budget Offerings	
Inland Valley Hope Partners - BETA	\$30.00
Capital Fund	\$500.00
Rudy Amaya Sr.	\$1,050.00
Inland Valley Hope Partners-General	\$50.00
ICE Out of Pomona	\$5.00

Upcoming Meetings

All-Church Retreat

Sunday, October 18th 11:30
Lunch will be served.

Church Board:

Thursday, October 22, 6:30 pm

Executive Committee:

Thursday, October 15, 6:30 pm

Music & Worship:

Tuesday, October 6, 6:30 pm

Service & Outreach:

Tuesday, October 6, 9:30 am

Stewards:

Tuesday, October 13, 3:00 pm

Bible Study

Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. over Google Meet.
Contact Sander Eller, sandereller@gmail.com,
for details.

Breakfast Fellowship Group

Every Wednesday at 8:00 am. in the Hillcrest
Dining Room. Contact Mary Hines, 909-418-
4654 for details.

Healed and Whole

On the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month
Healed & Whole meets for Dinner & Bible Study
at Julie and Dennis' house,
845 Hillcrest Dr. Pomona, at 7:00 pm.

Public Witness

Join us for a public prayer vigil held in Pomona.
We meet every Friday on the corner of Garey &
Mission at 4:30 pm. For more information,
please contact Pastor Julie, 909-720-9832.

Women's Book Club

A group of women are meeting monthly for
book club. We are reading "The Way Up is
Down" by Marlena Graves. Our next meeting is
Sunday, October 18th 3:30 For more
information, please contact Pastor Julie, 909-
720-9832.





Birthdays

Gary Hart on the 11th.

Messiah Brim on the 17th.

Leslie Deal on the 20th.

Laura (Deal) Russi on the 21st.

Bobbi Hemsworth on the 26th.

Richard Uranga on the 28th.

Cathy Banks on the 31st.

Anniversaries

If you would like to be included in the Birthdays & Anniversaries, please send an email to office@mypomonachurch.org with the information you wish to include.

Giving Emphasis for October

Thank you for your continued response in our effort to support the local food bank. Our food emphases for October are **baby supplies, baby food, and canned meat**. Canned meat is an easy and cheap source of protein that can be doctored up in many ways. With the cost of diapers, formula and baby food continuing to rise caring for a baby becoming more and more challenging. Any support we can give is helpful.

Flour and other basic baking ingredients can help stock a pantry and create many food options. For all canned food please provide pop-top cans if possible. As always, staple items, including spices, baking items like flour baking soda, yeast, socks and feminine products are always needed and welcome. Thank you for your continued support.



***Banner* articles are due by October 20th**

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Services & Activities

Sunday Worship

10:00 a.m. in the St. Paul's Parish Hall

Sunday School

Elementary Children 9:15 am

Adult Study Group 9:15 am

Women's Book Club

Once a month

Sunday, October 18, 3:30 pm

Bible Study on Google Meet

Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.

Fellowship Breakfast Group

Wednesdays, 8:00 a.m.

Healed & Whole Bible Study

2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

Julie Wheeler

Pastor

Rudy Amaya

Children/Youth Ministry Cor.

Terry Benson

Worship Music Leader

Janet Short

Moderator

Laura Lovelace

Admin. Assistant

Mission and Ministry Board considers future of General Offices

The Mission and Ministry Board of the Church of the Brethren on June 17 approved a Statement of Intent regarding the future of the General Offices in Elgin, Ill., which is the denomination's headquarters.

According to the statement, "the board is exploring options for relocation of the denominational headquarters and will be pursuing the responsible sale of the current headquarters property."

The decision follows years of discussion about the changes affecting the Church of the Brethren, how best to carry out the ministry of the denomination, and what responsible stewardship requires.

Board chair Kathy Mack presided at the Zoom meeting; the statement was approved with one abstention.

The timing of the June 17 decision was intentional to disseminate the information before Annual Conference and give Conferencegoers the ability to bring informed questions, sugges-



tions, and dreams to the event, according to board leadership.

Consideration of details related to the sale of property or relocation of headquarters and staff has not yet begun. There will be no immediate changes to staff roles, jobs, or locations. The process that has been put in motion with the Statement of Intent is expected to take a significant amount of time.

Pacific Northwest members face evacuations

"Please join us in praying for our brothers and sisters in the Pacific Northwest District," stated an Aug. 3 Facebook post. Fast-moving wildfires forced evacuations across Okanogan County, Wash. Members of the Whitestone and Ellisforde Churches of the Brethren, along with their neighbors, were ordered to leave their homes as firefighters worked to contain the fires.

Catholic Medical Mission Board begins renting space at Brethren Service Center

The Catholic Medical Mission Board (CMMB) has begun renting warehouse space at the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, Md., in an area formerly occupied by the Church of the Brethren's Material Resources program.

"We are very excited to welcome CMMB to the Brethren Service Center. They have provided opportunities for some of our former Material Resources staff," said Shawn Flory Repogle, executive director of Organizational Resources for the Church of the Brethren. He added that the presence of CMMB brings the Brethren Service Center to full occupancy, helping ensure its long-term sustainability.

"CMMB was searching for a new home for our Access to Medicines distribution program and couldn't be more pleased to partner with the Church of the Brethren to extend our mission," said Mary Beth Powers, CMMB president and CEO.

CMMB is a faith-based nonprofit that works with local partners to strengthen healthcare systems and expand access to medicines and medical supplies in underserved communities around the world. Through its Access to Medicines Program, the organization has distributed more than \$6.3 billion in donated medicines and medical supplies to 114 countries over the past 25 years.

Learn more at cmmmb.org.



Members of the Church of the Brethren's South Sudan team.

South Sudan pastors ordained for Church of the Brethren ministry

A growing Church of the Brethren congregation in the Mangateen Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp in South Sudan celebrated the ordination of two pastors in June: **Daniel Mawer** and **Paul Makuar**.

Mawer and Matthew Gatluak helped establish the congregation after being displaced from their home area of Unity State. Although neither reside in the camp, their wives and children remain in a refugee

camp in Gulu, Uganda.

Pastor and bishop Expert Bukene, together with Felicien Nkunzimana, district executive of the Church of the Brethren in Burundi, led training for pastors and evangelists in Juba before the ordinations. Gatluak returned to Mayom, Unity State, to be with his mother during her final illness and was therefore unable to participate in the ordination.

Mawer and Gatluak plan to continue leading the Mangateen congregation, while Makuar will begin a new church in Amadi, outside Juba.

Athanasus Ungang, Church of the Brethren Global Mission country director for South Sudan, reported that the Mangateen congregation began last year with about 50 worshipers meeting in a community center and has since grown to about 240. While the congregation hopes to build a church, resources remain limited, and like many pastors in the region, Mawer and Gatluak also plan to learn vocational skills to support themselves while continuing their ministry.



Daniel Mawer Gatpan and Paul Makuar Gatduel.

Remembrance: Suely Zanetti Inhauser

Suely Zanetti Inhauser, 75, died on July 22 after living for several years with a progressive motor neuron disease. With her husband, Marcos Inhauser, she was a longtime leader of Igreja da Irmandade (the Church of the Brethren in Brazil).

Both studied at Bethany Theological Seminary, where Suely earned a Master of Arts in theology. She served as assistant pastor of a Church of the Brethren congregation in Michigan, where she was ordained to the pastoral ministry. After returning to Brazil, she pastored the Mennonite Church in Campinas from 1993 to 2003. In 2000, the Inhausers launched a church-planting effort and later served through Global Mission as national co-directors and then co-coordinators for Brazil. In 2013, Suely preached at the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference.

In more recent years, after her diagnosis, “more than 600 people... came to visit her and tell her how significant her life and ministry was,” her family wrote in a remembrance shared on Facebook. “Couples testified to her that they remained married because of her teachings and therapy. God gave her the opportunity to hear these testimonies firsthand two years after the diagnosis.” She is survived by her husband of 52 years, three children, and grandchildren.

Personnel

Jeff Thomson began June 22 as director of Brethren Disaster Ministries. Thomson brings extensive disaster response experience, having deployed to more than 20 disaster sites, often in leadership roles. His professional background includes work in cabinet making and the hospitality industry. He will work remotely from his home in Kansas, where he attends a Baptist church.

Mark Watson resigned as Client Services manager for Eder Financial.



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<i>SUN</i>	<i>MON</i>	<i>TUES</i>	<i>WED</i>	<i>THUR</i>	<i>FRI</i>	<i>SAT</i>
				1	2 Public Witness 4:30pm	3
4 World Communion/ Pledge Sunday Enten Eller preaching	5	6 Service & Outreach 9:30am Music & Worship 6:30pm Google Meets Bible Study 7:30pm	7 Fellowship Breakfast 8:00am	8	9 Public Witness 4:30pm	10
11 Missionary Sunday Gilbert Romero preaching	12	13 Stewards 3:00 pm Google Meets Bible Study 7:30pm	14 Fellowship Breakfast 8:00am Healed & Whole 7:00pm	15 Executive Committee 6:30pm	16 Public Witness 4:30pm	17
18 Church Retreat 11:15 Women's Book Club 3:30pm	19	20 Google Meets Bible Study 7:30pm	21 Fellowship Breakfast 8:00am	22 Church Board 6:30pm	23 Public Witness 4:30pm	24
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